

## ASTHMA IN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA

\*\*Southwest Virginia represents the Cumberland Plateau, Lenowisco, and Mount Rogers health districts, which include the following counties: Bland, Bristol, Buchanan, Carroll, Dickenson, Grayson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, and Wise counties, and the cities of Norton and Galax.

### Current Asthma Prevalence Rate, 2004

Health District	Prevalence Rate
Cumberland Plateau	8.3
Lenowisco	11.7
Mount Rogers	9.5

The state rate is 7.3 percent in 2004. Lenowisco Health Districts ranked highest in current asthma prevalence among 35 Health Districts. Cumberland Plateau Health District ranked second highest in asthma hospitalization (23.0 per 10,000 population) in 2004 which is higher than the state rate (12.9 per 10,000 population).

### What VDH is Doing

The Asthma Control Project is working to develop and strengthen activities undertaken by local asthma coalitions and Health Districts.

- Train coalition members in effective advocacy on asthma.
- Plan and implement an asthma camp in partnership with Clinch Valley Medical Center and the American Lung Association of Virginia, Southwest Region.
- The VACP is collaborating with the Virginia Academy of Family Physicians to provide continuing medical education about asthma to family physicians in Southwest Virginia.
- Within VDH, the Virginia Asthma Control Project (VACP) has forged a partnership with the Division of Zoonotic and Environmental Epidemiology (DZEE) to address work-related asthma in those Health Districts.